

Remarks

The claims have been amended to make it clear that the components and devices of the invention are directed to the treatment of blood and blood components. Support for these amendments is found at numbered paragraphs [0024] and [0025] of the published application. Accordingly, no new matter is presented.

As applicants have pointed previously noted, the Weber reference is directed entirely to a device useful in the irradiation of alcoholic beverages to accelerate aging. It is inapposite to the device and methods claimed here. Applicants nevertheless would like to call to the Examiner's attention that applicants had also previously asserted that the Weber device was not capable of gravity-assisted use. This was an erroneous reading of the Weber reference as noted at Col. 3, line 34 of the same. Applicants continue to maintain, however, that Weber's alcoholic beverage industrial device does not teach one of ordinary skill in the art of providing blood therapies anything relevant to the instant invention.

Given the differences in the manner in which the inlets and outlets of the Lee reference are described relative to applicant's invention, it cannot be anticipatory either. Neither the Lee nor the Weber reference teaches, suggests, or would motivate one to alter their devices to an arrangement as claimed in this application. Further, the references are from very different art fields (alcoholic beverage aging v/s extracorporeal photopheresis) and should not be combined as they address very different issues in very different ways. Thus, the claimed invention is not obvious over either separately or by one in view of the other.

Respectfully submitted,

/Todd Volyn /

Todd F. Volyn
Reg. No. 37,463

DOCKET NO.: THR-5005USNP
Application No.: 10/742,343
Office Action Dated: December 4, 2006

Page 7 of 7

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933
Telephone: (732) 524-6202
Dated: March 1, 2007